

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) An insulated concrete panel, comprising:
 - (a) a first concrete layer;
 - (b) a second concrete layer spaced apart from the first concrete layer;
 - (c) an insulation layer;
 - (d) a plurality of connectors interconnecting the two concrete layers through the insulation layer and transmitting structural forces between the two concrete layers to provide composite characteristics to the wall panel; and
 - (e) a post-tensioning tendon assembly positioned substantially in the plane of the insulation layer.
2. (Previously presented) A panel as defined in claim 1, wherein the post-tensioning tendon assembly comprises:
 - (a) a longitudinal element extending over the majority of the panel length;
 - (b) anchorage members interconnecting the concrete layers with the longitudinal element for transferring a post-tensioning force from the longitudinal element to the concrete layers.
3. (Original) A panel as defined in claim 2, wherein the longitudinal element is comprised of a high-strength rod, strand, or bar.
4. (Original) A panel as defined in claim 2, wherein the longitudinal element is placed in a space formed in the insulation layer.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) A panel as defined in claim 2, wherein the longitudinal element is adjusted to produce tension in the longitudinal element and compression in the concrete layers.

7. (Previously presented) A method for constructing an insulated concrete panel, comprising the steps of:
- (a) placing a first layer of plastic concrete;
 - (b) placing a layer of insulation on the first concrete layer;
 - (c) inserting a plurality of connectors through the insulation layer into the first concrete layer such that the connectors are embedded into the first concrete layer while the concrete is plastic;
 - (d) positioning a post-tensioning tendon in the insulation layer;
 - (e) placing a second concrete layer on the insulation layer and consolidated around exposed end portions of the plurality of connectors;
 - (f) positioning in the concrete layers a pair of anchor plates a predetermined distance apart;
 - (g) allowing the concrete layers to gain strength through curing; and
 - (h) adjusting the post-tensioning tendon to produce a force in the tendon and in the concrete layers.
8. (Original) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the post-tensioning tendon comprises a high-strength longitudinal element and wherein the adjusting step comprises adjusting an end portion of the longitudinal element.
9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 8, wherein adjusting of the end portion of the longitudinal element produces tension in the longitudinal element and compression in the concrete layers.
10. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein positioning of the post-tensioning tendon occurs while the first concrete layer is still plastic or after the concrete has hardened.
11. (Canceled)
12. (New) An insulated concrete panel, comprising:

- (a) a first concrete layer;
- (b) a second concrete layer spaced apart from the first concrete layer;
- (c) an insulation layer;
- (d) a plurality of non-cementitious connectors interconnecting the two concrete layers through the insulation layer and transmitting structural forces between the two concrete layers to provide composite characteristics to the wall panel; and
- (e) a post-tensioning tendon assembly positioned substantially in the plane of the insulation layer.

13. (New) An insulated concrete panel, comprising:

- (a) a first concrete layer;
- (b) a second concrete layer spaced apart from the first concrete layer;
- (c) an insulation layer;
- (d) a plurality of connectors interconnecting the two concrete layers through the insulation layer and transmitting structural forces between the two concrete layers to provide composite characteristics to the wall panel, wherein the connectors have a thermal efficiency higher than that of concrete; and
- (e) a post-tensioning tendon assembly positioned substantially in the plane of the insulation layer.